

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Previously presented): A charge calculation apparatus comprising:

a first determination unit configured to determine whether or not application software, which is selected from application software provided by another apparatus connected via a network and used via the network, is an accounting object, wherein the selected application software is used to create and/or edit data by a user operation via the network;

a first calculation unit configured to calculate a software charge for performing a predetermined process by using the selected application software, in accordance with determination by said first determination unit;

a second determination unit configured to determine whether or not an output device, which is selected from a plurality of output devices to receive via the network the data created and/or edited by the selected application software and to output the data, is an accounting object;

a second calculation unit configured to calculate a device charge for using the selected output device, in accordance with determination by said second determination unit;

and

a third calculation unit configured to calculate a total charge of a data output process based on the respective charges calculated by said first and second calculation unit.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the application software creates and/or edits document data.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A charge calculation apparatus comprising:

a first determination unit configured to determine whether or not a device, which is selected from a plurality of devices to input or output data, is an accounting object, wherein the selected device is used by a user via a network;

a first calculation unit configured to calculate a device charge for using the selected device in accordance with determination by said first determination unit;

a second determination unit configured to determine whether or not application software, which is used to use the selected device via the network, is an accounting object;

a second calculation unit configured to calculate a software charge for using the application software in accordance with determination by said second determination unit; and

a third calculation unit configured to calculate a data processing charge of the selected device using the application software based on the respective charges calculated by said first and second calculation units.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the application software is stored in said charge calculation apparatus.

Claim 6 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the application software is provided through a network.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): A charge calculation method comprising:

a first determination step of determining whether or not application software, which is selected from application software provided by another apparatus connected via a network and used via the network, is an accounting object, wherein the selected application software is used to create and/or edit data by a user operation via the network;

a first calculation step of calculating a software charge for performing a predetermined process by using the selected application software, in accordance with determination in said first determination step;

a second determination step of determining whether or not an output device, which is selected from a plurality of output devices to receive via the network the data created and/or edited by the selected application software and to output the data, is an accounting object;

a second calculation step of calculating a device charge for using the selected output device, in accordance with determination in said determination step; and

a third calculation step of calculating a total charge of a data output process based on the respective charges calculated in said first and second calculation step.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 7, wherein the application software creates and/or edits document data.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Previously presented): A charge calculation method comprising:

a first determination step of determining whether or not a device, which is selected from a plurality of devices to input or output data, is an accounting object, wherein the selected device is used by a user via a network;

a first calculation step of calculating a device charge for using the selected device in accordance with determination in said first determination step;

a second determination step of determining whether or not application software, which is used to use the selected device via the network, is an accounting object;

a second calculation step of calculating a software charge for using the application software in accordance with determination in said second determination step; and

a third calculation step of calculating a data processing charge of the selected device using the application software based on the respective charges calculated in said first and second calculation step.

Claim 11 (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the application software is stored in a computer.

Claim 12 (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the application software is provided through a network.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): A computer-readable storage medium which stores program codes of a charge calculation method, comprising:

a code of a first determination step of determining whether or not application software, which is selected from application software provided by another apparatus connected via a network and used via the network, is an accounting object, wherein the selected application software is used to create and/or edit data by a user operation via the network;

a code of a first calculation step of calculating a software charge for performing a predetermined process by using the selected application software, in accordance with determination in said first determination step;

a code of a second determination step of determining whether or not an output device, which is selected from a plurality of output devices to receive via the network the data created and/or edited by the selected application software and to output the data, is an accounting object;

a code of a second calculation step of calculating a device charge for using the selected output device, in accordance with determination in said second determination step; and

a code of a third calculation step of calculating a total charge of a data output process based on the respective charges calculated in said first and second calculation step.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): A computer-readable storage medium which stores program codes of a charge calculation method, comprising:

a code of a first determination step of determining whether or not a device, which is selected from a plurality of devices to input or output data, is an accounting object, wherein the selected device is used by a user via a network;

a code of a first calculation step of calculating a device charge for using the selected device in accordance with determination in said first determination step;

a second determination step of determining whether or not application software, which is used to use the selected device via the network, is an accounting object;

a code of a second calculation step of calculating a software charge for using the application software in accordance with determination in said second determination step; and

a code of a third calculation step of calculating a data processing charge of the selected device using the application software based on the respective charges calculated in said first and second calculation step.